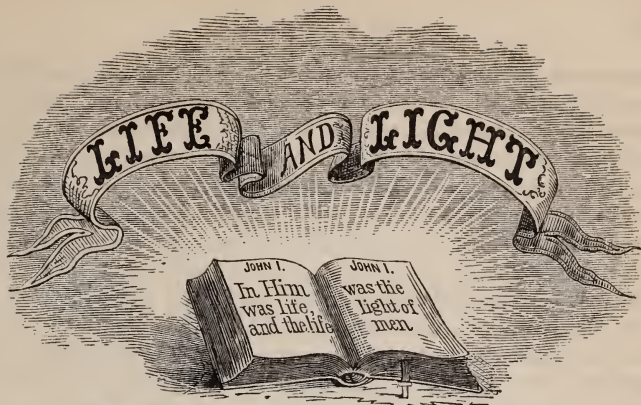






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## FOR WOMAN.

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INDIA.

SOWING SEED.

BY MRS. W. B. CAPRON.

“WHO shall tell thee words whereby thou and all thy house shall be saved?” Such was the message of an angel; and the power of the Holy Ghost followed the words. We are put in trust with these saving words, and we must have a brighter faith in the sure blessing of the Holy Spirit on the soul to whom they are spoken.

I have been taking great interest in telling the story of the prodigal son. I have been impressed with the effect of its wonderful power and beauty on different minds. I had a call, the other day, from two women notoriously given to quarrels, gambling, and cock-fighting. They are traders; and the women are fully equal to the men in driving a bargain. Trained to see where a little gain may be made, why should they not be made to feel the force of a truth that is of so much more value than coin? They had come to tell me of their aches and pains; and I determined to tell them “words whereby they might be saved.”

I brought out my two pictures illustrating the story of the prodigal son, hiding the picture of the father's welcome behind

that of the forlorn youth feeding swine. I have never heard from a native woman more discriminating observations on a picture. They did not at all approve of the brilliant brown color of the swine, nor the shape of the ears; but they were willing to admit that there might be such a variety in some other land, since the tail was like that of a pig. I well knew, that, notwithstanding their own coarseness in my estimation, they held feeding swine in utter disgust.

“This is a story told by one who came from heaven. Will it, then, be a story good for us to hear?” I asked.

“There will be great wisdom in it. We should think a story which you told was wise, much more if one came from heaven to tell it.”

I told them of Him who came to our earth, and his wonderful work, till they were evidently ready to listen to One who spake with authority.

They began to feel pity for the young man as I described his home, and the wealth he had squandered. It was interesting to see how disgust at his employment faded before their increasing perception of his forlorn condition, and his memory of his father's house.

“But he is going back to beg for work only; and how will the father receive him?”

“He won't take him back,” one woman said: “he has had his portion, and wasted it; and it would be unjust to the other children. He may help him a little; but he can't make him a son again.”

There was quite a little silence, which I would not allow myself to break, and at length the other woman thoughtfully replied, —

“I don't know: he is a son born in his own father's house; his mother will want to take him back, and the father will consent.” Thus spoke the mother-heart.

I then changed the pictures, and it was exciting to see the effect of that father's welcome to his long-lost son. There was no upbraiding, no manifestation of offended dignity, but full, free, loving embrace of welcome. Tears came into their eyes at once, and they exclaimed with delight at what was evidently awaiting the prodigal son.

Now comes the application; and Shall I fail, or succeed, is my anxious thought? “Oh, thou of little faith, wherefore dost thou doubt?” They understood about heaven. They understood that they are creatures made and preserved by God, and that they must

be fearfully far away from him, since they never speak to him, and never mention his goodness. They understood that the body is perishable, and that it is the silent but undying soul that is so precious to us and to our heavenly Father. Now see how our Father loves us, and let us find our way to him, and be children in his house forever.

“Can we go to-morrow?” said one of the women.

“Oh!” said the other, “you don’t know what she means. I do, and I will tell you. This is the way it is: we are stupid donkeys, you know, and are thinking only about what to eat. She says — and this isn’t the first time I have heard her say it — that these bodies go to nothing, but that these parts inside of us, that keep us always thinking of what is gone, or what is to come, cannot die, and so we shall be thinking somewhere forever. I see it plain. She is going to heaven when she dies, and that’s where she wants us to go; and she says the great Swamy is glad to have us come, just like that father in the picture. That’s the way they do in their house. They are always glad to see us, and we are no relations. I’ve been here when she hadn’t time to speak a word; but she never said, ‘Go, go!’ She looked glad, if she didn’t say any thing, and that’s the way she means.”

Here she paused, as if she had gone to the length of her knowledge. I was nearly overcome with astonishment and delight at this testimony. I was thankful for every time that I had only seemed glad, even when she had almost demanded that I should buy the little balance of grain that had remained, after her speculation at the weekly fair. I was thinking how easily divine Power could bring this precious soul within the limits of saving grace. I was also thinking how very difficult it was for her to break through the fetters of tyranny, social and superstitious, and enter the freedom of the daughter of the Lord Almighty when she earnestly said, —

“See, we are such donkeys, and live so different from you! If we should try to learn about these things, I am sure we couldn’t know much. It is your way for you, and ours for us.”

I tried to describe her life at home, busy with her various duties, but with a heart full of peace, because of forgiveness and acceptance through the sacrifice and merits of our Lord Jesus Christ. They were most attentive; and I was thinking how to pray with them, when a party of ten, from a distant village, came to pay a visit, and the interview was ended.

My heart followed them out of the door, and as they went along

the little path under the tamarind-trees, out of sight. There was given me no prophetic vision by which I could say, "Though ye have been among the pots, yet shall ye be as the wings of a dove, covered with silver, and her feathers with yellow gold." I had only told "words whereby they might be saved."

As we were allowed of God to be put in trust with the gospel, even so we speak, not as pleasing men, but God, which trieth our hearts. A wonderful privilege indeed!

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## JAPAN.

### THE CITY OF KIOTO.

OF all mission-fields, Japan is now undoubtedly the most attractive; and the special point in Japan in which the Woman's Board feels most interest, just at present, is Kioto, the sacred capital of the empire, of which a representation is given in the accompanying woodcut. This view of the city is taken from a hill at its eastern limit, on which stands the Buddhist temple of Kio-midsu, or Temple of the Pure Heart, one end of which appears at the right of the picture. It is said that Buddhist devotees, after worshipping in the temple, sometimes throw themselves from its lofty veranda, fifty feet, into the plain below. Their belief is, that, if their prayers are answered, Buddha will save them from harm; and, if they have not his blessing, they profess to prefer death to life. The city itself stretches far off toward the western hills. The large roofs to be seen here and there are those of Buddhist and Shinto temples, of which there are six thousand in and around the city, built at an immense expenditure of money and labor. The following description of the contents of one of these temples will give some idea of their size.

"In the middle was a gigantic image with thirty-six arms. Sixteen black images, larger than life, stood around it, and, on each side, two rows of gilt idols with twenty arms each. On either side of the temple, running from end to end, were ten platforms, rising like steps, one behind the other, on each of which stood fifty images, as large as life (a thousand in all), each on its separate pedestal. They were so arranged as to stand in rows of five, one behind the other, and all visible at one time, each with its twenty hands. On the hands and heads of all these are placed smaller idols, to the number of forty, or more; so that the whole number, 33,333, according to the estimate of the Japanese, does not appear exaggerated."



Most of the houses in the city are two stories high with tile roofs; and the paper lanterns hanging from the verandas, at intervals of from twenty to thirty feet, serve the double purpose of picturesque ornament by day, and a pleasant light for the streets by night. The beautiful temple grounds all over the city afford delightful public parks and places of resort, always open to the people, who go in and out of the temples at their pleasure, mumbling their prayers before some saint, and now and then throwing their contributions into the coffers standing ready for them.

Kioto has always been considered the chief literary city of the empire, as well as its spiritual centre. Seminaries of learning, and quite an extensive school-system, carried on by government, were in existence when the first English explorers entered the city. The people are noted for their intelligence, and polish of manners.

The city is also famous as a magazine of Japanese manufactures. Here they "refine copper, coin money, print books, weave the richest stuffs with gold and silver flowers, make the best and scarcest dies, the most artful carvings, all sorts of musical instruments, pictures, japanned cabinets, all kinds of things wrought in gold and other metals, particularly in steel, the richest dresses, all kinds of toys, puppets moving their heads of themselves : indeed, nothing can be imported from abroad so neatly made, but what some artist in this capital will be able to imitate it."

For a thousand years Kioto was the political centre of the empire ; and the other portions of the country were arranged and divided with reference to their direction from it, and the methods of communication with it by roads and canals. "Its rulers claim to represent a dynasty that has outlived every other, — one that has seen the rise, or the rise and fall, of every empire and every dynasty that has held sway from the time that Nebuchadnezzar led his hosts from Babylon against Zedekiah, King of Israel, to the present. Like the eternal city of Damascus, Kioto lies in an extended plain of great beauty, environed by hills ; but, unlike her ancient compeer, not a beggar is to be seen in her streets, nor are any met with who seem to be scantily clad, or half fed, in all her population of half a million." Yet with all this wealth and intelligence, the city is wholly given over to idolatry, and the people are the slaves of superstition and puerile ceremonies. There is nothing that approaches our home-life in all the city; and morality is almost unknown : indeed, the people are as thoroughly heathen as any on the face of the globe.

It is in this grand old city — grand in its possibilities, but pitifully weak in all that makes true greatness — that we propose to establish a Christian school for girls. It may seem but the merest pebble dropped into the great sea of idolaters (half a million and more); but, though the ripple be slight at first, we trust that its ever-increasing rings will, in time, reach the outmost limits of the city. As the Christian girls go forth from it, year by year, with the Bible in their hands, either to teach its truths to their countrywomen, or to make it their guide in their homes, we trust they may help to move the city to its foundations.

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## TURKEY.

### JOTTINGS BY THE WAY.

BY MISS C. E. BUSH.

WE have been much interested, recently, in the story of an Armenian woman, named Nazloo Hanum, who has just died. She was the mother of one of our Protestant sisters. She was a fine-looking woman, and one who received much honor from men, prizing it too highly to leave all, and follow Christ. Formerly she was bitterly opposed to the Protestants; but, some ten years ago, a young boy, whose parents were Nazloo Hanum's neighbors, died a most triumphant death, though enduring most intense suffering from hydrophobia. She had never before witnessed such confidence and trust in God, such lack of fear, on any deathbed; and, filled with wonder, she exclaimed, —

“I never saw such peace and faith before. Formerly I thought that all Protestants went to hell when they died: now I know that they are saved.”

She had a son, who nine years ago was very faithful in his attendance on the prayer-meetings held daily during a season of awakening in the church. Nazloo did all in her power to hinder his going; and, when he came home from the meetings late in the evening, she would not believe he had been spending his time with good people, and would lock the door, and refuse him admittance. He was refused food also, and every effort made to turn him from the faith. It gained such power in his heart, however, that he is now a member of the Protestant church.

His mother went one day to a revival meeting, held in a poor

old room, but not so poor and old but that the Lord was pleased to reveal his glory, as in Solomon's temple of old. Nazloo sat and listened to the simple, earnest words of the preacher: she heard the sobs of those who were broken in heart for sin, and the pleading of Christians for mercy for the impenitent. Her daughter, behind whom she sat, could hear her moving herself back and forth, and saying, "What is this? Oh, my sins, my sins!" After meeting, she said, "What do I see, my daughter? How I have sinned in reviling the Protestants, and persecuting my son!" She sent for Pastor Mardiros, and begged his forgiveness for the many evil words she had spoken against him; and she was often seen in the Protestant prayer-meetings.

The priests, who had showed her much respect before, reproved her, saying, "So you, also, have become a Prote." She told them they preached no such sermons as those she heard at the Protestant chapel, and there were no such prayers at the old Armenian church. But soon they "caught her with guile," by making her superintendent of the "poor-box" each sabbath: they flattered her, and honored her; and her old love for the esteem of the world drew her away from all that was good and holy. So she died without one word to show, that, even in that solemn hour, she repented of her love of money and the world's honor, without one sign that she had made any preparation to meet her God. What allowances God may have made for her ignorance, or the circumstances by which she was surrounded, we know not; but "What shall it profit a man, if he gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?"

Near our home stands a large new house, occupied by a wealthy furrier and his family; the family consisting of his wife and daughter, and two sons and their wives, one of whom has three children. There is also living with them a woman whom we call blind Mariam, the sister of the furrier. Mariam has for many years been the only Protestant in the house. Long before she could get permission to attend the chapel, she used to sit by the open window of one of their rooms, and listen to the singing, and the sound of the preacher's voice, as it was borne to her on the air. Soon she was able to attend the chapel regularly, being led there by one of the younger children, or some friendly neighbor. Since I came here, five years ago, two of the young girls have been deprived of this, to them, precious privilege, on account of having

grown to the age of twelve and fourteen, and become engaged to be married : in this state of things "it is a shame" to go to the chapel. Lately both of the sons have attended more or less ; and Mariam has felt, at times, that the prayers of many long years were about to be answered.

We have often been received very politely at this house ; but twice, recently, no one has come into the room, when we have called, but blind Mariam and the young girls. About a week ago, however, Mariam told us that a married daughter was sick at the house, with no prospect of recovery, and wished to see us. We went, rejoicing that somebody in that home needed us. We found the daughter very feeble. By her pillow was a Testament and hymn-book ; and she said, that for several weeks, since we had called on her, and urged her to take up the daily reading of the Bible, she had hungered after God's word, and found it most precious. She felt that she must die, that she had truly repented of her sins, and no more clung to the world, wishing to go to be with Christ, which is far better.

Her old mother was in the room during most of our visit. She is a woman of strong character, clinging to the superstitions of the old church, and a very Saul in her zeal. But her daughter told us how, at night, the mother would comfort her in her pain and weariness, telling her to look to Jesus for help, sometimes rising in the night to pray. As I heard the story of this poor ignorant woman, and saw the trust and faith of the daughter, I thought of the encouragement which the Lord gave to Paul, "I have much people in this city." Who knows how many are hidden here, serving God blindly, perhaps, but with enough of faith and love for salvation.

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### OUR MISSIONARY PICTURES.

WE answer various inquiries as follows: These diagrams are painted on cloth, in size about three feet by four feet. We have five sets, each set containing from six to nine pictures, illustrative of heathen manners and customs, and the effects of missionary labor.

There are two sets on the Hindus, one on the Chinese, one on the Africans, and one representing various scenes among the South Sea Islanders and the American Indians. A written explanation accompanies each set; and a list of the best books for missionary reading is appended. These sets are loaned — not sold — for the use of mission-circles, on the payment of fifty cents per set, and cost of expressage. Application should be made to Mrs. M. B. Norton, No. 1, Congregational House, Boston.

# Our Work at Home.

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## ORGANIZATION OF THE WOMAN'S BOARD.

BY MRS. LEMUEL GULLIVER.

[The following article is abridged from a paper presented at a convention of branches held in October last, but has not appeared in our pages till now, for lack of space. We are sure our readers will be glad to obtain from it a clear idea of the relationships of the different organizations of the Woman's Board.]

A FEW weeks since, a veteran missionary of another denomination, whose years of Christian labor and undoubted wisdom have made him a prince in Israel, came into the rooms of the Woman's Board. Referring to his observation abroad, he spoke of the evils arising from any difference in policy between the Woman's Boards and the parent Boards with which they co-operate. He urged upon us, in strong terms, the strictest adherence to the principles regulating the action of the American Board.

His words confirmed us in our opinion of the necessity of a thorough understanding, among our members, of the relations existing between the American Board and the Woman's Board of Missions, and the Woman's Board of Missions, its branches and auxiliaries.

As yet (we say it gratefully), in the wonderful growth of missionary organizations throughout our limits, we have occasion only for joy and thanksgiving; but we cannot fail to see, that, from the very rapidity of this growth, there are dangers which must be promptly met. These dangers arise, not from any lack of love or reverence for the Board, — which in our childhood had its honored place in our fathers' and our mothers' prayers, and which with every year strengthens its hold upon our own, — but rather from a lack of information regarding the principles of action adopted by it, and from a failure in realizing our own obligation to be true to these, even to the minuter details of our work.

There is danger, too, from a misunderstanding, or lack of understanding, among the societies of our own Board, of our interdependence and mutual responsibility. The Pauline parable of the many members and the one body is emphatically true of us. If one member suffers, all of the members suffer with it. If, through

lack of nurture, auxiliaries fail of their full development, the whole body suffers a corresponding loss of vigor. If any branch adopts a hurtful policy, the injury is felt by the whole body, and by the work abroad.

We thank God we are not speaking of what has taken place; and we make these statements the better to insure harmonious and intelligent action in all coming time.

#### THE RELATIONS OF THE W. B. M. TO THE A. B. C. F. M.

At the time of the organization of the Woman's Board of Missions, its object was declared to be, "by funds, efforts, and prayers, to co-operate with the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, in its several departments of labor, for the benefit of the degraded of our sex in heathen lands." It was thus plainly pledged, in the beginning, that our policy should be identical with that of the American Board. The same policy, the same general principles, must, therefore, form the basis of action in all of our branches, and guide every auxiliary

By Article 2 of our Constitution, the Secretaries and Prudential Committee of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions constitute an advisory Board; and all missionary candidates are referred to them, before appointment by the Directors.

Further: the advice of the Secretaries is sought in all matters of moment and especial difficulty.

Appropriations of money are made only in accordance with the advice of the Prudential Committee.

One of the Secretaries said to me a short time ago, "It is remarkable how the two Boards have worked together. Their relations have been harmonious. No difficulty whatever has arisen in their co-operation." It is pleasant to add that we have, and have always had, the entire sympathy of the officers of the Board. It is good to be assured also, that we have the full support of every member of the Prudential Committee.

#### RELATIONS EXISTING BETWEEN THE W. B. M. AND ITS BRANCHES.

By our Constitution, Auxiliary societies not less than twenty in number may become a branch of the Woman's Board of Missions, with power to choose such officers and make such regulations, not inconsistent with this Constitution, as they may wish.

Their duties are, to form missionary societies in every Congregational church within their limits; to be responsible for the

rooting, nurture, and growth of each of these organizations ; to send quarterly all money collected to the treasury of the Woman's Board of Missions, to be appropriated to the work adopted by the branch, or, with their approval, to the general fund.

It is expected, also, that they will be represented at the Annual Meeting of the Woman's Board of Missions, and report the progress of the work within their limits during the year ; in all respects, to identify themselves in policy with the Woman's Board of Missions.

In all local matters, — modes of working, times of meeting, official associations, — they are independent.

By Article 1 of our Constitution, the President of each branch becomes a Vice-President of the Woman's Board of Missions, and will be cordially welcomed to its executive meetings held on the first and third Mondays of every month.

Each branch has a right to choose, from the unappropriated work of the Board, that to which its funds shall be given ; and, having thus chosen, it will be held responsible for this work until due notice has been given of its intended withdrawal from it.

Each branch has a right to all of the letters of general information from the special missionaries under its care. But it is necessary, in order that the officers of the Board may be constantly in possession of the fullest and latest information of the state of the work in the different fields, and for the sustaining of our missionary periodical, that ALL SUCH LETTERS PASS THROUGH THE ROOMS OF THE BOARD, where a copy will be taken, if it is deemed desirable, and the original letter forwarded, with as little loss of time as is possible, to the branch or auxiliary to which it belongs.

The branches have a claim upon the Board for all the communications it can give outside their own especial work.

The Woman's Board of Missions pledges to the headquarters of the branch all the aid in its power in carrying out the plans of the branch. It pledges a delegate for the Annual Meeting of the branch, and to furnish a missionary or missionaries for that meeting, if they can be obtained.

The Home Secretary holds herself ready at all times to reply to questions respecting missionary work or policy.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Applications for letters for meetings should be sent to Mrs. M. B. Norton, Secretary of the Bureau of Exchange, No. 1, Congregational House.

## RELATIONS BETWEEN BRANCHES AND AUXILIARIES.

As the branch provides for, and, if necessary, assists by one of its officers in the organizing of each auxiliary, so it will continue to watch over and nurture it until the new society is fully established. This is a duty of vital importance. We hear, occasionally, of a society holding its annual meeting for the choice of officers, where, through a lack of knowledge of the mode of conducting such transactions, not an officer was properly chosen. This ought not to be. Due notice should be given of such meetings, and pains taken to secure the presence of a goodly number of members. This meeting will certainly gain in dignity and power by being conducted in accordance with parliamentary usage, and it will lose nothing in interest and spirituality. There may be more especial need that the more remote districts be in frequent communication with the centre. We would make the suggestion, that an officer be appointed in each branch, if not already done, to correspond with and aid auxiliaries in these matters. On the other hand, auxiliaries are expected to communicate frequently with the branch to which they belong, to refer to it in all matters of interest, and to act in all things in accordance with its principles. A large attendance upon the meetings of the branch will aid greatly in promoting union, and growth of interest. This will be advanced, also, by holding these meetings in different towns.

Each society should remit the sum pledged TO THE TREASURER OF THE BRANCH for such specified work as it may adopt.

It is hoped, that, in all cases, auxiliaries supporting a teacher will give her, in addition to this pecuniary support, the comfort of an occasional cordial letter, which shall come to her as the grasp of the hand of a loving friend. Only those who have been similarly situated can understand the value of such help.

In this correspondence, it may happen that special articles not provided for in the yearly appropriation for the mission are mentioned by the teacher as desirable for her school, or in some department of her work. The quick response of that generous sympathy which we desire to see manifested toward our missionaries is, "Let us obtain these articles for her, and send them at once." And some may ask, "What possible objection can there be to this course?"

It may not be understood by all that the amount of money yearly furnished each mission is based upon an estimate made by

the members of the mission themselves. In making out this estimate, our teachers have a voice with the other members. The missionaries on the ground can judge far better than we, if these special articles desired by the teacher will really benefit her school or work.

We rejoice in the formation of conference and county associations. From this binding-together of our auxiliaries, we confidently expect greater growth, and increased efficiency in our work. In unity of spirit and of action, let us all press forward in unwavering faith, looking for and hastening the glorious and not distant day, when "the kingdoms of the world shall become the kingdoms of our Lord and of his Christ."

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### A MISSIONARY TOUR.

LAST May Day suggested, among the hills of Franklin County, Massachusetts, no reminiscence of its ancient delights, when, on English meadows, our fore fathers and mothers danced around Maypoles, and their blithe praises of the "merry month" floated forth on balmy air late into the tuneful, dewy eve. Snow lay in the valleys, as well as on the hillsides, as Miss Williams, with recent and vivid remembrance of the fierce heats of Central Turkey, shivered, and longed for winter wraps, in her long stage-ride toward Northampton, our first rendezvous.

Many hopes for pleasant weather were disappointed as the morning of May 3 dawned over the lovely valley of the Connecticut, and the beautiful old town of Northampton. A gentle rain began to fall as the ladies of Hampshire County were assembling at the Edwards Church, to consider the propriety of forming a branch of the Woman's Board of Missions. Notwithstanding this discouragement, upward of a hundred ladies had gathered in the vestry at the appointed morning hour. The pastor, Rev. Gordon Hall, name fragrant in missionary annals, opened the meeting by Scripture reading, prayer, and a welcoming address, in which congratulations upon the number assembled, and great interest in our object, were heartily expressed. This was followed by a brief but interesting address by the Rev. W. A. Leavitt, pastor of the First Church. A paper on the advantages of organization as a means of securing and perpetuating the interest and efficiency of our ladies in foreign missions was then presented by Mrs. M. B. Norton of Boston.

The roll was then made out, when it was ascertained that between fifty and sixty ladies, representing auxiliaries in the county, were present. After temporary organization of the meeting, and a brief discussion, the Hampshire County Branch was formed, by the adoption of a constitution, and the appointment of a committee on the nomination of officers, consisting of Mrs. Hodges of Northampton, Mrs. Parsons of East Hampton, Miss Cooper of Amherst, Miss Graves of Hatfield, Mrs. Lyman of West Hampton, and Mrs. Otis Hill of Williamsburg.

An adjournment for an hour and a half, at mid-day, gave an opportunity for pleasant re-union and social intercourse in the commodious church-parlors, where a collation was served by the ladies of Northampton. Previous to the afternoon meeting, a precious devotional season was led by Mrs. Stoddard of Northampton. More than two hundred ladies assembled at two o'clock, when, after opening exercises, the Committee on Nominations reported as follows: For President, Mrs. W. H. Stoddard, Northampton. Vice-Presidents, Mrs. Colton, East Hampton; Mrs. Prof. Crowell, Amherst; and Mrs. Gordon Hall, Northampton. Recording Secretary, Mrs. Joseph Lanman of West Hampton. Corresponding Secretaries, Mrs. J. L. Jenkins, Amherst; Miss E. B. Hinckley, East Hampton. Treasurer, Miss Isabella G. Clark, Northampton. These officers were unanimously elected. After brief remarks by Mrs. Norton, Mrs. Hooker, president of the Springfield Branch, proffered the greetings of that body, and expressed cordial sympathy and congratulation. The ladies of the Springfield Branch had sent her away from a meeting of their own on that day, that she might express to the ladies of Hampshire County their joy in the work which had now been so auspiciously begun. They were assured that organization had greatly furthered the work in Hampden County, and encouraged their own faith, and they doubted not it would have the same results in Hampshire County. Miss Mary S. Williams of Marash then gave a vivid description of life and work in Turkey, interesting all present till the time for final adjournment had come. The closing prayer was offered by Miss Edwards, associate principal of Mount Holyoke Seminary; and "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow," echoed from hearts truly thankful, in view of the work and promise of the natal day of the Hampshire County Branch.

Afloat on the broad bosom of the Connecticut, in our little flat-boat ferry, as the evening drew on, thoughts were busy with the

history of which these Western Massachusetts hills had been the theatre. Gathering up the memories, one by one, — from Jonathan Edwards of Northampton, to Mary Lyon of South Hadley, — they were still dwelling on the time, forty years ago, when she was journeying up and down the hills, and almost literally cementing every brick of the new seminary with prayer, when we drew up at the door to receive the cordial welcome of principal and teachers. It was a rare privilege next morning, at devotions in the hall, to study nearly three hundred upturned eager faces, as the assembled pupils listened to Miss Williams's description of the life of girls in Turkey, and her personal experience of loving labor there. If we mistake not, eyes that smiled, and hearts which thrilled in response to the speaker that morning, are nourishing, as with dew and sunshine, earnest purposes yet to blossom in deeds of Christ-like sacrifice for the sinning and the suffering at home and in lands beyond the seas.

Albany had been selected for our next visit. Our meeting there May 5 had to meet the disadvantage of fast-falling rain; but the fifty ladies who braved it, to listen to Mrs. Norton and Miss Williams for an hour, were rewarded by an incident not set down in the programme, — the entrance of a Turkish lady, whose veil and sheet, removed, disclosed a bright orange costume with tasselled turban, many braided hair, painted fingers, and glistening coins and ornaments worn with a timid air, as of one unused to such society.

A promise was asked and given for another meeting, when, it was hoped, the skies would be more propitious.

Early on the morning of May 6, we were wending our way through old Schenectady and the exquisite Mohawk valley, just tinted with the tender brown and green of early springtime, toward busy, enterprising Gloversville. The generous, loving deeds and words which here awaited us bespoke deep and abiding interest in the cause, and a reaching-forth to an even better record in the future, as a vigorous auxiliary of the Woman's Board of Missions.

A beautiful sabbath in Albany, with a larger gathering of ladies from several churches, to hear the story of the work, was followed, on Monday, by a brief tarrying at Poughkeepsie, and a rapid ride toward New Haven, that we might not lose the inspiration of the host of elect ladies to be gathered there in annual convocation on the following day. On that sitting-together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus, we must not linger for a moment; for it can only be fitly related when it forms the sole theme of the heart and pen.

At Darien, Conn., May 10, we heard the hum of "Busy Bees"

among the perfume-laden branches of its beautiful orchards, and witnessed the anomaly of a real working queen bee in a hive where there seemed to be no idlers, and where sweetest honey is abundantly stored for use of the starving far away. Darien was the home of our missionary, Miss Wheeler, of Japan.

The next day at Flushing, L.I., earnest hearts gave sympathetic response to the story of those who are sitting in darkness, and of our efforts to convey life and light to the benighted. The quiet evening hours of May 12 were spent with our dear Mrs. Edwards in New York, followed by an early morning farewell on the steamer's deck, as she steadfastly and bravely set her face toward Africa. Shall we not pray for her? Shall we not send out our sympathies, like silent attendants upon the long, long, weary voyage, to gather about her as she takes up anew her work in that dark land, and to call down blessings which shall be as "the continual dew of the heavenly grace" upon Inanda Seminary?

Two days were spent among the grand old hills of Berkshire County, in communion with sisters in Pittsfield and Lenox, who, counting the present the day of small things in their foreign work, are yet hopefully looking, and bravely working, toward the larger things which the future surely holds in store for them. A largely attended meeting was held in Pittsfield, where the theme was Turkey, its women and their needs; and another, a parlor gathering, where Syria and Turkey made mutual salaams, and sang and talked, in costume, for the benefit of many eager eyes and ears. A few earnest words were also spoken by Miss Williams to the gathered school-family at Maplewood.

Next day came hearty farewells at the end of our tour. Pleasant memories long will linger of the delightful households where Christian hospitality has made glad our hearts with welcome, and crowned our partings with gracious benedictions; and our hope is strengthened by the sight we have had of faithful gleaners in hidden nooks and corners, as well as of brave reapers, who, in more open fields, are bearing the heat and burden of the day.

Time fails to speak of the fragrant sacrifice of one who brought a family treasure, whose fine gold was new in 1776, as an offering to the dear Lord through the Woman's Board of Missions; of another who made a yet choicer offering — *herself* — to the cause: but these and others are written in the book of remembrance which is kept by Him who never forgets or overlooks the smallest tribute of loving devotion, and who will bring all to light in the day when he maketh up his jewels.

M. B. N.

## Use thy Child.

BY MRS. G. W. SARGENT.

THERE are voices, far-off voices,  
From the islands of the sea,  
Borne by soft and gentle breezes;  
And they seem to say to me, —

Sister, hasten, come and help us;  
Dark the paths our feet have trod,  
Groping blindly for the pathway  
Leading us to heaven and God.

And my spirit yearns within me  
For my sisters far away,  
Fainting for the bread of heaven,  
Longing for the light of day.

Is there nothing I can give them,  
Feeble though my hands may be?  
Some sweet word of hope and comfort  
I would send far o'er the sea.

I would tell them how my Father,  
From his blessed home on high,  
Looks with tender love and pity,  
And will hear them when they cry.

I would tell them how my Saviour  
Took away *my* load of sin;  
And I know that they would gladly  
Let the blessed Jesus in.

Lord, thy fields are white to harvest,  
And the laborers are few:  
'Tis but little *I* can give thee,  
Little that *my* hands can do.

Take the life that thou hast given me;  
Take the powers thy love bestows;  
Use thy child among the gleaners,  
Till my life's last day shall close.

RECEIPTS FROM APRIL 18 TO MAY 18, 1876.

MRS. BENJAMIN E. BATES, TREASURER.

MAINE.

|                                      |          |
|--------------------------------------|----------|
| <i>Maine Branch.</i> — Mrs. Woodbury |          |
| S. Dana, Treas., Greenville,         |          |
| Aux., \$30; Portland, Aux.,          |          |
| add'l, \$1.50; "State St. Ch.        |          |
| Mission-Circle," \$80.04; Plym-      |          |
| outh Ch., "Penny-Gatherers,"         |          |
| \$18; Bridgeton, Aux., \$10;         |          |
| Bath, Miss A. L. P., \$10; Booth-    |          |
| bay, Aux., \$10; North Booth-        |          |
| bay Aux., \$6.37; Lebanon            |          |
| Centre, Aux., \$16; Solon, Aux.,     |          |
| \$10; Bangor 1st Parish Mission-     |          |
| Circle, of wh. \$25 to const. L.M.   |          |
| Miss Sophia Stackpole, \$30;         |          |
| Aux., add'l, \$3.50,                 | \$225 41 |
| <i>Tremont.</i> — A friend,          | 25 00    |
| Total,                               | \$250 41 |

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

|                             |         |
|-----------------------------|---------|
| <i>Marlborough.</i> — Aux., | \$14 47 |
| Total,                      | \$14 47 |

VERMONT.

|                                           |          |
|-------------------------------------------|----------|
| <i>Vermont Branch.</i> — Mrs. Geo. H.     |          |
| Fox, Treas., Enosburg, Aux.,              |          |
| \$12; Chester, Aux., \$13.25; St.         |          |
| Johnsbury, South Ch., Aux.,               |          |
| \$29.88; Franklin, Aux., \$2.50;          |          |
| Rutland, Aux., \$24; Barnet,              |          |
| Aux., \$8; Bradford, Aux., \$6;           |          |
| Chelsea, Aux., \$13; Danville,            |          |
| Aux., \$16,                               | \$154 63 |
| <i>St. Johnsbury.</i> — Miss S. T. Cross- |          |
| man,                                      | 5 00     |
| <i>Stretford.</i> — Mrs. A. H. Farr to    |          |
| const. L.M. Mrs. Julia Par-               |          |
| melee, Erzroom, Turkey,                   | 25 00    |
| Total,                                    | \$184 63 |

MASSACHUSETTS.

|                                          |        |
|------------------------------------------|--------|
| <i>Amherst.</i> — 2d Cong. Ch., Aux.,    | \$6 08 |
| <i>Boston.</i> — A thank-offering, \$10; |        |
| a friend, \$1; "Little Girls'            |        |
| Prayer-Meeting," \$1.03; Eliza           |        |
| and Henry, \$1.17; Central Ch.           |        |
| Mission-Circles, of wh. \$25 by          |        |
| Miss Mary Topliff to const.              |        |
| L.M. Miss Clara Dennison.                |        |
| \$473.83; Old So. Ch. Aux., add'l        |        |
| \$68; Berkeley St. Ch., a friend,        |        |
| to const. L.M.'s Mrs. J. A.              |        |
| Torrey, Mrs. S. B. Pratt, \$50;          |        |
| a friend, \$10; Ladies' Monthly          |        |
| Pledge, \$13.25; Park St. Ch., of        |        |
| wh. \$25 by Mrs. Ezra Farns-             |        |
| worth to const. L.M. Miss Alice          |        |
| Farnsworth, \$144; Shawmut               |        |
| Ch., Mrs. B. F. Whittemore               |        |
| for the Kioto Home, Japan,               |        |
| \$25,                                    | 797 28 |
| <i>Boston Highlands.</i> — Highland      |        |
| Ch., Aux., of wh. \$25 to const.         |        |
| L.M. Mrs. John Hall, \$25 by             |        |
| Mrs. S. N. Stockwell to const.           |        |
| L.M. Marie Louise Stockwell,             | 100 88 |
| <i>Bradford.</i> — Aux.,                 | 23 00  |
| <i>Brockton.</i> — Aux.,                 | 100 00 |

|                                           |            |
|-------------------------------------------|------------|
| <i>Brookline.</i> — A friend,             | \$ 40      |
| <i>Cohasset.</i> — Aux.,                  | 10 00      |
| <i>Dedham.</i> — Aux., of wh. \$25 to     |            |
| const. L.M. Miss Sarah K.                 |            |
| Burgess, \$100; Sarah's mite-             |            |
| box for Kioto Home, \$10,                 | 110 00     |
| <i>Dorchester.</i> — Village Ch., Aux.,   | 50 00      |
| <i>East Falmouth.</i> — Aux., of wh. \$25 |            |
| by Mrs. A. H. Perry to const.             |            |
| herself L.M., for Kioto Home,             | 25 60      |
| <i>Framingham.</i> — Young Ladies'        |            |
| Mission-Circle,                           | 11 00      |
| <i>Haverhill.</i> — Aux., \$52.60; Pen-   |            |
| tucket Mission-Circle, \$30,              | 82 60      |
| <i>Ipswich.</i> — Aux., to const. L.M.    |            |
| Mrs. Edwin Palmer,                        | 25 00      |
| <i>Jamaica Plain.</i> —"Wide Awakes,"     |            |
| towards sal'y of Mrs. Bissell,            | 72 00      |
| <i>Medfield.</i> — Mrs. S. B. C., \$5; a  |            |
| friend, \$3; "Morning-Glories,"           |            |
| \$10,                                     | 18 00      |
| <i>Merrimac.</i> — Aux.,                  | 41 60      |
| <i>Middleborough.</i> — Cong. Ch.,        | 14 00      |
| <i>Montague.</i> — Aux.,                  | 18 32      |
| <i>Natick.</i> — A friend,                | 1 00       |
| <i>Newton.</i> — Eliot Ch., for sal'y of  |            |
| Mrs. Capron, \$604; for Kioto             |            |
| Home, \$100,                              | 704 00     |
| <i>Newton Centre.</i> — Aux., of wh.      |            |
| \$50 to const. L.M.'s Mrs. Rob-           |            |
| ert R. Bishop, Mrs. Geo. P.               |            |
| Davis,                                    | 63 40      |
| <i>North Abington.</i> — Cong. Ch., \$3;  |            |
| "Merry Workers," \$5,                     | 8 00       |
| <i>North Brookfield.</i> — Aux., to       |            |
| const. L. M. Miss Abby W.                 |            |
| Johnson,                                  | 25 00      |
| <i>Pittsfield.</i> — Aux., of wh. \$25 to |            |
| const. L.M. Mrs. Henry L.                 |            |
| Dawes, \$25 by Mrs. H. M. Hurd            |            |
| to const. herself L.M., "Snow-            |            |
| flakes," Kioto Home, \$5,                 | 63 84      |
| <i>Plymouth.</i> —"Mary Allerton          |            |
| Mission-Circle,"                          | 40 00      |
| <i>Salen.</i> — Crombie St. Ch.,          | 50 00      |
| <i>Sandwich.</i> — Aux.,                  | 20 00      |
| <i>Saugus.</i> — A friend,                | 5 00       |
| <i>Saxonville.</i> — Edwards Ch., Aux.,   | 15 50      |
| <i>Springfield Branch.</i> — Miss H. T.   |            |
| Buckingham, Treas., Spring-               |            |
| field So. Ch., \$37.14; 1st Ch.           |            |
| "Cheerful Givers," \$4; West              |            |
| Springfield, Park Ch., \$71.65;           |            |
| West Granville, \$6.50; Belch-            |            |
| ertown, "Bird's Nest," \$2.50,            | 121 79     |
| <i>Wareham.</i> — Aux., of wh. \$25 to    |            |
| const. L.M. Mrs. A. F. Gibbs,             |            |
| for Kioto Home,                           | 30 00      |
| <i>West Newton.</i> — Ladies' Prayer-     |            |
| Meeting,                                  | 6 00       |
| <i>Williamstown.</i> — Aux., of wh. \$10  |            |
| by Miss Elizabeth Pierce for              |            |
| Kioto Home,                               | 11 00      |
| <i>Worcester Co. Branch.</i> — Mrs.       |            |
| Geo. W. Russell, Treas., Clin-            |            |
| ton, Aux., \$30.18; Athol, Aux.,          |            |
| \$31; Petersham, Aux., \$5;               |            |
| Barre, Aux. to const. L.M. Mrs.           |            |
| Rensleare Johnson, \$25,                  | 91 18      |
| Total,                                    | \$2,761 47 |

## RHODE ISLAND.

*Rhode Island Branch.*—Miss Anna T. White, Treas., Providence, Central Ch. (of wh. \$25 by Mrs. F. W. Carpenter to const. L. M. Mrs. A. K. Hall, \$25 by Mrs. A. D. Lockwood to const. L. M. Miss Edith Danielson, \$25 by Mrs. J. M. Talcott to const. L. M., Mrs. Martha Bronnell, Hartford, Ct., \$25 by Mrs. Greenough to const. herself L.M., \$25 by Mrs. Lathrop to const. L. M. Miss Ellen Haskell), \$325; Free Ch., B. R. Ceylon, \$35; Union Ch., "Mission Helpers" for sch's Orfo & Kessab, \$100; Pettaconsett "Mission-Circle," \$7, \$467 00

Total, \$467 00

## CONNECTICUT.

*Greenwich.*—2d Cong. Ch., Aux., \$25 00  
*New Haven Branch.*—Miss Julia Twining, Treas., Bethlehem towards Marsovan scholarship, \$10; Birmingham (of wh. \$60 to support one pupil each at Madura and Inanda, and \$25 from Dea. Shelton to const. L. M. Mrs. G. W. Shelton), \$85; Bridgeport S. S. of North Ch., of wh. \$60 to support a pupil each at Madura and Inanda, \$75; Danbury towards Mrs. De Forest's salary, of wh. \$15 from Miss Mary Richard towards L. M'ship, \$122; E. Haddam, "Willing Helpers," for Miss Strong's school, \$25; Haddam, Young Ladies' Miss. Assn., for Miss Strong's school, \$25; Madison, towards a share in the Marsovan school building, \$10; Middle Haddam, towards Miss Strong's salary, \$13; Middle Haddam S. S. of 2d Ch., for Miss Strong's school, \$20; Middletown, South Ch., to complete py't for sch.-ship at Dakota Home, \$25; Morris, to const. L. M. Mrs. Wm. M. Ensign, \$27; Mount Carmel, \$25; Naugatuck for a sch.-ship at Marsovan, \$40; New Britain, "Cheerful Givers," for tuition of Yegripet, support assumed by Mrs. Schneider, \$10; New Haven, Ch. of the Redeemer (of wh. \$25 from Mr. Henry J. Prudden to const. his mother, Mrs. G. P. Prudden, L. M., \$25 from Mrs. H. D. Clarke to const. Miss Emily A. Bradley L. M.), \$81.60; College St. Ch., \$13; Fair Haven, 1st Ch., of wh. \$30 fr. "Lilies of the Valley" towards Mrs. De Forest's sal., \$40; Howard Av. Ch., \$8.05; North Ch., \$11.50; Third

Ch. S. S., (of wh. \$30 for a sch.-ship at Marsovan, \$20 for a pupil at Ahmednuggur), \$50; New Milford, \$5.50; Norfolk, \$10; North Haven, from Miss Cynthia E. Dayton, to const. herself L. M., \$25; Roxbury, \$60; Saybrook, \$10.22; Sharon, \$14.05; South Norwalk, T. L. M. Band, for Marsovan sch.-ship, \$40; Thomaston, "Free Givers" to support a pupil at Foochow (of wh. \$25 from Mr. G. W. Gilbert, to const. L. M. Miss Sadie C. Gilbert), \$52; Trumbull (of wh. \$25 to const. L. M. Mrs. C. Newell Brinsmade, the remainder towards another L. M.), \$34; Waterbury "Five Brothers," towards p'g't for pupil at Ahmednuggur, \$455; West Haven, \$14; West Haven, "Miss Seed-Planters," for Mrs. Hume's school in India, \$5; Westville, \$25; Wilton, to support a B. R. in the Mahratta field, a pupil at Foochow, and a sch.-ship at the Dakota Home (of wh. \$25 to const. L. M. Mrs. Robert F. B. Easton of South Wilton), \$135; Woodbury, North Ch., \$5; Miss Mary M. Maltby, to const. L. M. Miss Jane A. Maltby, \$25; Mrs. W. H., in addition to \$10 previously sent to const. L. M. Mrs. F. A. Noble, \$15, \$1,190 47  
*Talcotville.*—"Merry Workers," "Willing Helpers" (of wh. \$10 for Kioto Home, \$25 to const. L. M. Mrs. Geo. H. Hill), \$30; pupil at Mandapasalie, 66 50

Total, \$1,281 97

## NEW YORK.

*Flushing, L.I.*—"Macgregor-Hall Gatherers," for work under Mrs. D. Reemer, Ceylon, \$75 00  
*Franklin.*—1st Cong. Ch. S. S., 15 00  
*New York City.*—"Cheerful Workers," salary Miss Bush, Harpoot, 337 00  
*Oswego.*—Cong. S. S., \$1; Haynes L. Hart, \$5, 6 00

Total, \$433 00

## WISCONSIN.

*Maiden Rock.*—Mrs. Lucy Gruteaux, \$2 00

Total, \$2 00

General Funds, \$5,394 95  
 "Life and Light," 203 27  
 Weekly Pledge, 6 70  
 Leaflets, 1 06

Total, \$5,605 98

MISS EMMA CARRUTH, Asst. Treas.

# Department of the Interior.

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## CHINA.

### LETTER FROM MISS PORTER.

PEKING, Jan. 31, 1876.

. . . WE have just passed the Chinese New Year, and our school is dismissed for a fortnight's vacation, half of which has already passed. A number of the girls have no home to go to; and some who have prefer to remain here: so we have still quite a family to care for; but they have no regular tasks, and all the routine of school-life is broken up.

The months since I wrote you have been quietly busy, and in some respects eventful ones. I can but feel, that, in the years to come, we shall look back upon this year as one in which our school took a new position, and as a starting-point for much good. Two of our first class have left us during the last term, to go to heathen homes, as the wives of heathen husbands. I have written you before what a sad disappointment to our hopes, and great grief, the constant repetition of such things is; and as we saw the time approaching for Ruth, the most lovely and conscientious of our pupils, to leave us so, it seemed almost more than we could bear. As the day for the wedding drew near, our anxiety increased, lest the dear girl should not have strength to resist the strong pressure brought to bear upon her by her friends, and should take part in the heathen rites connected with the marriage-ceremony.

We made the matter a subject of especial prayer; and I wrote her a letter, urging upon her, with all the affection and tenderness I could show, the duty of "witnessing for Jesus." Her father-in-law is in Mr. Hunt's employ: so we have some hold upon him; and I used all my influence with him to secure her from temptation or persecution. God was better to us than our fears; and the heathen relatives so far yielded to our wishes as not to prepare the customary altar to heaven and earth with the offerings of fruits and sweetmeats upon it, and not to require the customary prostrations. I received a sweet, frank letter from the bride a few days after her marriage, full of joy at the goodness of God. She has visited us

several times since, and, we hope, is not to be cut off from intercourse with us. If you could see our dear Ruth, her sweet face all lighted up with gladness at coming home, you wouldn't wonder that we love her, or that it is a trial of faith to see her placed where, however brightly her light may shine, it can reach so few. Her husband called to give us the New Year's salutations: he is a pleasant young man in the employ of the government printing-office. I entirely disregarded all Chinese proprieties in my conversation with him, and did such a very shocking thing as to inquire for his wife, and congratulate him on having so lovable and attractive an one. I really think the dear child has a happy home, and that her husband and father are kind to her. I speak of this as if it were unusual. It is indeed. A native woman said to me only Saturday, "If a husband wants to be good to his wife, he is ashamed to: if he does not beat and revile her, every one will laugh at him."

Soon after Ruth left us, another of the Christian girls was taken away to be married. In this case, I knew there was no hope of influencing the friends: it was the simple question, Would the girl refuse to kneel when led to the altar, or would she yield? When I talked with her, her quiet answer always was, "I dare not promise: I trust God will give me strength." We wept and prayed together; but I trembled for the word we might hear. You can imagine our gratitude when the tidings came to us, confirmed by most unwilling witnesses, that she stood through all the ceremony, simply and quietly declaring, in answer to all questions, "The disciples of Jesus *cannot* worship heaven and earth." The heathen all about are asking, "How do they bewitch the girls in that school? They appear so docile and gentle, but are so obstinate."

Two more of our girls are to be married within a year. Both have already informed their friends that they will have no part in heathen rites, and I believe the example of those who made the first stand in the matter will establish a precedent of untold importance and value. Have we not reason to raise an "Ebenezer," and magnify the goodness of the Lord? Another of our first class is to leave us at the close of the vacation to become a teacher in a day school connected with the English Chinese Mission: she will be under Mrs. Collins, of whom I have written you before, and we trust may be both useful and happy in her new position.

A spirit of tenderness and interest in the truth has pervaded our family for the last two or three months, and we hope that a number of the children have consecrated their lives to the Saviour. Two

were baptized two days ago; and we expect others to unite with the church very soon. Our prayer-meetings have been precious seasons, and all our intercourse with our dear girls has in it a new joy. Yesterday (Sunday) every leisure moment that I had was spent in listening to the simple accounts, from one and another, of what they had been trying to do for Jesus during the week they had been at home. Some said all that they could do was to sing hymns, their friends wouldn't listen to reading or talking; but others told of reading the Scriptures; and one, of praying with her friends at their own request. One dear little child — so shy and shrinking, that it is only by a great deal of encouragement that she can be induced to talk with me — said she had told her mother of her wish to be baptized, and had been met by angry opposition. I saw the mother this morning, and tried to talk with her on the subject; but she made a number of excuses, and finally said, "Well, if her father and *all her relations* consent, I will not object."

The semi-annual examination of our school took place just before vacation. The scholars were roused to unusual exertion in preparation for it, and studied early and late the preceding fortnight. One of the girls finished the memorizing of the New Testament, and I think could now repeat almost any chapter in it. She has also learned the Psalms. All were examined on some portion of Scripture committed to memory, and some division of Scripture history studied by *topics*, besides the Chinese classics. Arithmetic and geography, and a simple manual of theology, were studied by the elder girls. They write, too, the native character and Romanized colloquial; so that the hours were very full in which we tried to give a little review of the work of the past six months. You have doubtless learned from the "*Herald*," ere this, of the loss our mission has sustained in the death of Mrs. Gulick. When we parted with her last September, as she passed through Peking with Mr. Gulick, on her way to Japan, we knew that it was very possible they might never return to labor with us; but we hoped that she at least might have many years of service in the Master's cause. But our Father, who knows far better the needs of the vineyard than we, has called her to himself. She was the first lady of the mission with whom I became intimately acquainted on my arrival in China, and through all these years has been to me a loving, unselfish friend. You saw her in Evanston, and must have learned, from even a few hours' visit, to appreciate her rare devotion to the cause of Christ in China and Mongolia.

As you saw her then, she was *always*, — never too weary to spring at the first call for aid in doing good, utterly self-forgetful, and so intent upon *one* object, that she overcame obstacles which to many of us would have seemed insurmountable. She found her way into homes which more cautious workers could not enter, and leaves a vacancy which no one else can fill. When she went to Japan, she left little Martha here under Mrs. Collins's care, studying with Mrs. Collins's two little daughters. She is still there, and I do not know what are Mr. Gulick plans for her future. . . .

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## CENTRAL TURKEY.

### LETTER FROM MISS SHATTUCK.

AINTAB, Jan. 13, 1876.

THE last week in December, in company with Miss Proctor, I visited Killis, a city of considerable size, twelve miles from Aintab. We started about eleven, A.M., and, nicely "bundled up," suffered not at all from the cold; the raw wind being at our backs. It was really the first opportunity I had had for visiting with Miss Proctor, so busy had we each been in our work since her arrival, Oct. 26. We chatted incessantly; and it was a rich feast to me to hear the many items of interest regarding her visit to America, her journeys, her old and new friends, &c.

Just at dark, we reached a little miserable Moslem village, and put up at the *khaan*, which I would like to show you, — a small room comparatively, one end raised somewhat, with a fireplace, but no window. Here we curtained off a corner, and put up our travelling-beds for sleep, after eating our supper from napkins spread in our laps, with six or eight men gazing at us, and asking our servant all manner of questions about us. After the men had left us, we were not alone; for at the other end of the room were some eight or ten cows, calves, horses, &c., and all about us were fleas innumerable. But you have heard the story often, doubtless. I need not say more, only that we could not sleep, until, near morning, weary with tossing, and breathing the close, unclean air, we each found sleep for about one hour. Glad to start with morning light, we reached the house of Pastor Gergose about noon, and received a hearty welcome from him and his wife and Menoosh, one of my last year's graduates, who began teaching last July. We had a good chat around the pot of coals during the noon recess;

but the story was a sad one in some respects. Last August, when I passed through the city from my mountain tour, Menoosh, full of hope and joy, was working in her school with about forty pupils, all nicely classified, and making good progress. A boy's school, too, numbered about thirty; but the fearful sickness of the season—in that place taking the form of fever rather than of cholera—had so far reduced the number of the pupils as to make it best to have but one school for the winter. She had only seventeen or eighteen daily in that. They counted sixty-five absent ones unable to attend school. During the two-days' visit, I went into about a dozen houses, and there I saw some of the many sufferers. One family comes to mind so vividly, — a pale, weak mother trying to do a little mending; five half-sick children about her, some able to sit up in their beds while we were there; but two, falling back, and drawing their comforters over them, showed how weak they were. One little one had died recently, they said. Another house showed a "home without a mother;" four pretty children, though pale and emaciated, showing what they had suffered. One was trying to cook a little food for them. So I might tell of many; but it was a joy to see the earnest pastor looking after his flock with so much faithfulness, and though the meetings were, of course, not fully attended in such circumstances, the Word was given from house to house in his daily ministrations, and we saw of its fruit in many instances.

Our journey home was through much difficulty, a storm beginning just after we started, that continued incessantly through the long twelve hours and a half, that took us far into the dark ere we reached home; and the mud and rain quite prevented the usual relief from the saddle by walking. But we had our home comforts for the night, and were tolerably rested on the morrow. We helped entertain between two and three hundred callers, school children included, next day (New Year's), and enjoyed it much. To me, however, it was, what it was not to any of my associates, a constant reminder of last New Year's Day, when in the different groups were faces seen no more since the Destroyer took his three thousand by cholera from us this summer. They said to me, as the same thought came over them, "These [my associates] all were in America while we were in the midst of the affliction." — "Yes" I replied; "but we tasted the preciousness of God's presence as they could not."

Our one week of vacation ended, we are all again at our work

in school, our study, our attendance of meetings in different localities. Meetings held during the week of prayer were quite well attended, though without the same interest as during the special season at cholera time.

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## DAKOTA.

### LETTER FROM MISS COLLINS.

FORT SULLY, D. T., March 1, 1876.

It hardly seems possible that the winter is past. But it is so. It has been a very short, pleasant season to us. I suppose now, the long hot days will soon be here. This is a very hot place in summer; very little rain, and no trees to make a shade: but, if we "abide under the shadow of the Almighty," what matters it?

I feel that this winter's work has not been in vain. I have taught all winter, and my school has constantly increased. I now have one girl who has learned to read and write a little. She attends very regularly, and is quite studious. Several girls have attended less regularly. Three boys have learned to read pretty well. One, the smart boy, named "Yelling in the Woods," has learned to read and write; so that he is able to write a letter now. I only learn as fast as the children do; for it is all I can do to translate their lessons, besides the sewing-school work. Miss Whipple is studying her lessons now for school to-night. We teach reading, writing, geography, and the Bible, numbers also. At present, we have an Indian boy with us. He is very willing to work, and is anxious to learn; studies very hard. This morning our Bible lesson was concerning God's care over us; and "Chumachen" seemed deeply impressed with the idea that God cared for us, that the hairs of our heads were numbered. And when I said, "God loves you also," his face lighted up; and, after I left him, he read on to the end of the chapter. I trust the Holy Spirit accompanied the words, and that he soon may come into the light. God's word is always a safe teacher, and a successful one. I rejoice that a few of these boys can learn of him through his word. To-day it is quite cold, and a deep snow on the ground, the only one we have had this winter.

In the sewing-school, the women have a very social time, as well as a busy one. They are doing nicely with their quilts. Quite a number have completed the upper part: there are about forty, in all, now under way.

In the summer, we cannot do very much missionary work; for the Indians go off on trips, and farm, &c. But we shall find enough to do.

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## Home Department.

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### WHO WILL COME TO THE RESCUE?

BY MISS RANKIN.

“A FALLING-OFF in funds for the missionary treasury” is heralded from various quarters. The reasons given are, that “the times are hard, money is scarce, and there necessarily must be a retrenchment of expenses.”

True; but where is the proper place to begin retrenchment? Where will there be the least actual suffering from so curtailing outlays as to meet the financial pressure of the times?

It can not, must not, be the missionary treasury, wherein the interests of precious, immortal souls, for whom Christ died, are involved, especially the treasury of the Woman’s Boards of Missions, from which have issued such streams of blessing into the world of heathen women. By these organizations, the *heart* of the heathen world is reached, and the strongest holds of Pagan superstition and idolatry are assailed. This work so nobly begun would be greatly hindered by the falling-off of contributions; and lest such a dire calamity should befall the Woman’s Boards, so that they would be constrained to curtail their work, I feel constrained to make an urgent appeal to the Christian women who have so nobly sustained them in times past. May no auxiliary fail to furnish its full quota of funds for the present year! By a little exertion and resolute determination, each band of organized women can maintain the interest by urging the necessary sacrifice of personal gratification, rather than permit the Lord’s cause to suffer during this trying crisis. If there must be a lessening of expenditure, let it be in worldly indulgences, not where interests are involved high as heaven, deep as hell, and lasting as eternity.

May every Christian woman of our auxiliary societies put her hand into her Saviour’s, and pledge her utmost efforts to avert the curtailment of the blessed work in which the divine heart of the

Redeemer of the world is deeply interested! Let the full amount of money flow into the treasury, till no want is felt there, and not only prevent the Woman's Boards from diminishing their work, but enable them greatly to enlarge it, until the millions of heathen women who are still sitting in darkness receive the glad tidings of the gospel of Christ.

My dear Christian sisters, let us come up face to face with our blessed Jesus, and ask him to help us do all his holy will; and, in thus waiting upon him, our souls will receive an impulse which will make every sacrifice a blessing to ourselves.

BLOOMINGTON, ILL.

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### WORDS FROM MICHIGAN.

"THEY that feared the Lord spake often one to another." A pleasant reminder of these words of the prophet have been the Woman's Missionary meetings, held in connection with the gatherings of the churches in some of the conferences of Michigan. The need of some plan of systematic organization, such as is an acknowledged power in the Methodist and Presbyterian Woman's Boards, has long been felt. This need is in a great measure met by the plan of conference organizations.

A large proportion of the members of our auxiliaries can never attend a meeting of the Board, or even of the branches; yet they greatly need to take counsel one with another, to give and receive helps over hard places. These semi-annual meetings, with their pleasant social intercourse, reports, opportunities for counsel, and seasons of prayer, are a power. Increased intelligence and inevitably increased interest follow. The quickening of conscience and strengthening of purpose give a healthy impetus to the work. Like the scattered embers on the hearth, left alone, they soon fade and die; brought together, they send a warmth and glow throughout the room.

Were there space, I would like to tell the readers of "Life and Light" of some of these meetings, — how, in one place, the young ladies had decorated the room with flowers, whose perfume and beauty gave tone and inspiration to the whole meeting; how, also, older ladies, who had never attended a missionary meeting save that of their own little auxiliary, went away refreshed for the Master's service.

In another place, we went out from the hallowed influence of the

Lord's Supper into an upper room, — the *new* church parlor, tasteful and inviting in all its appointments, thus delightfully consecrated to woman's work. A glowing meeting of two hours was followed by a social, in which the ministers and delegates of the conference participated.

Let me here record, that the vice-president of this conference left the bedside of her mother, where she had been watching for weeks, travelled over two hundred miles, added greatly to the interest of the meeting by her presence, and returned the day following to her mother.

In yet another, the cosey parlor of a Christian home was generously opened, and packed full by Christian women, who had come to plan and pray for those who know not the precious home joys of Christian lands.

The reports from these auxiliaries, most of them very small, told of real self-denial, and a deep, abiding interest in this part of the Master's work. One dear woman from a home of toil said, "This work is an inspiration to my life. I am seldom able to leave my home, yet I feel, that, through this work for woman, I place my hands on springs of action that move the nations."

In some of the conferences, the pastors invited a presentation of the cause, and pledged themselves to hearty co-operation.

Thus saith the Lord, "In those days, your sons and your daughters shall prophesy."

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## ARRIVAL.

MISS BARROWS and Miss STARKWEATHER, who sailed from San Francisco for Japan on March 1, reached Yokohama March 29, after a prosperous voyage. The party was met on board the steamer by Mr. and Mrs. Greene, who welcomed Mr. and Mrs. Leavitt to their home; while the hospitalities of the Yokohama Home, with which the name of Mrs. Pruy is so pleasantly associated, were tendered to Miss Barrows and Miss Starkweather during their stay in the city. Miss Starkweather writes, under date of April 4, "We attended the Union Church last sabbath, doubly memorable as our first in the country, and as that on which the proclamation of the sabbath as a day of rest to those in government service in Japan went into effect. By a pleasing coincidence, the bell of this church, the first Protestant bell in Japan, rang out its call of welcome on that morning for the first time."

## THE MINNEAPOLIS "HELPING HANDS."

They met last sabbath afternoon with India for a subject. One told the country, its climate, &c. Another bounded it; a third brought pictures illustrating it. One little girl read a paper, simple and childlike, on "Ways of Earning Money;" for they are pledged not to bring a penny which they do not earn for themselves. Two read stories about Juggernaut and bridges in India; and one sweet little girl told charmingly a story from a missionary letter, about the children in missionary boarding-schools. Most of the others gave each an "item" about the country. They desire to pay a child's expense in some school.

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THE WOMAN'S BOARD OF MISSIONS OF THE  
PACIFIC

has adopted Mrs. Watkins of Mexico, and Miss Rappleye of Turkey, making, with Miss Starkweather of Japan, three missionaries in all. The two last named went to their mission-fields from California, and have many warm friends there. The members of the Board, feeling its increased ability to grasp this work, and bear more of its burdens, have specially requested that these missionaries be transferred to them, that they may call them their very own.

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THE WOMAN'S MISSIONARY MEETING of Jackson Conference, Michigan, was held at Union City, April 18. This pleasant little town is at the extreme limit of our conference bounds: consequently not as many ladies were there from abroad as we could have wished; but either verbal or written reports were given from all the auxiliaries. There were from seventy-five to eighty ladies present, largely, of course, from Union City. This, of itself, was an encouragement to them, as they said they had never seen so large a company of ladies together there before on any occasion. All seemed to be intensely interested. Ladies crowded around, after the meeting, to tell how much good had been done, and that they "felt sure they should do better another year, because of the meeting." Several remarked that they had never before attended any meeting of the kind, except their own. The ladies of Union City had taken unwearied pains to make it pleasant and attractive

for us: the church was beautifully decorated with flowers and plants, and trailing vines.

I am convinced that these conference meetings are an important element in our work, and should be *made much of*.

M. L. K.

“MUCH is said in these days of the uselessness of foreign missions. ‘How,’ it is asked, ‘can a handful of men and women hope to convert a whole nation of idolaters?’ When the fishermen of Galilee went forth to the conquest of a whole world lying in darkness, they, it would seem, might well have deemed the task a hopeless one; but behold, to-day, two continents across whose length and breadth the Lord’s day is ushered in by the ringing of sweet and peaceful bells, proclaiming, to all who hear them, the fact of the success of these men, under God, in their apparently hopeless undertaking, and of the triumph of Christianity over the then heathen portions of the world.”

“DOLE not thy duties out to God,  
But let thy hand be free:  
Look long at Jesus — his sweet blood,  
How was it dealt to thee?” — FABER.

## RECEIPTS OF THE WOMAN’S BOARD OF MISSIONS OF THE INTERIOR.

FROM APRIL 15, 1876, TO MAY 15, 1876.

MRS. FRANCIS BRADLEY, TREASURER.

### OHIO.

|                                          |         |                                         |          |
|------------------------------------------|---------|-----------------------------------------|----------|
| <i>Akron.</i> — Aux.,                    | \$10 00 | <i>D. Noble, and Miss Lydia Ran-</i>    |          |
| <i>Atwater.</i> — Mission-circle,        | 6 35    | <i>son, L. M.’s,</i>                    | \$80 00  |
| <i>Charlestown.</i> — Aux., for Japan    |         | <i>Pittsfield.</i> — Aux., for pupil at |          |
| Home,                                    | 10 00   | Marash,                                 | 10 00    |
| <i>Chatham Centre.</i> — Aux., to com-   |         | Total,                                  | \$257 20 |
| plete share in Japan Home,               | 9 50    |                                         |          |
| <i>Cleveland.</i> — Plymouth Church,     |         |                                         |          |
| Aux.,                                    | 42 20   |                                         |          |
| <i>Columbus.</i> — 1st Cong. Ch.,        | 50 00   |                                         |          |
| <i>Edinburg.</i> — Aux.,                 | 10 00   |                                         |          |
| <i>Hudson.</i> — Woman’s Union Miss.     |         |                                         |          |
| Soc.,                                    | 1 15    |                                         |          |
| <i>Kent.</i> — Aux., for aid to mission- |         |                                         |          |
| ary children,                            | 10 00   |                                         |          |
| <i>Lodi.</i> — Aux.,                     | 8 00    |                                         |          |
| <i>Mt. Vernon.</i> — Aux., for Health    |         |                                         |          |
| Retreat near Mardin,                     | 10 00   |                                         |          |
| <i>Oberlin.</i> — Aux., for salary of    |         |                                         |          |
| Mrs. Mumford, and to const.              |         |                                         |          |
| Mrs. Nellie Tambling, Mrs. C.            |         |                                         |          |

|                                          |         |
|------------------------------------------|---------|
| <i>Chelsea.</i> — Aux.,                  | \$12 18 |
| <i>Farwell.</i> — Miss Mary S. Fletch-   |         |
| er,                                      | 5 00    |
| <i>Flint.</i> — Aux., for asst. in Samo- |         |
| kov school, \$15.92; Sunday              |         |
| School, \$20,                            | 35 92   |
| <i>Grand Rapids.</i> — Aux., for Bible   |         |
| reader in Nicomedia,                     | 23 00   |
| <i>Greenville.</i> — Aux., for salary of |         |
| Miss Spencer,                            | 26 00   |
| <i>Hartland.</i> — Aux., for salary of   |         |
| Miss Spencer,                            | 9 00    |
| <i>Jackson.</i> — “Willing Workers,”     |         |
| for aid to missionary children,          | 10 00   |

|                                                                  |          |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| <i>Leslie.</i> — Aux.,                                           | \$ 50    |
| <i>Livonia and Nankin.</i> — Aux., for salary of Miss Pinkerton, | 10 05    |
| <i>Wayne.</i> — Aux.,                                            | 12 00    |
| Total,                                                           | \$143 65 |

## ILLINOIS.

|                                                                                                                                                                 |          |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| <i>Alton.</i> — Aux., of Ch. of the Redeemer, \$9.50; "Cheerful Givers," \$1.50,                                                                                | \$11 00  |
| <i>Aurora.</i> — 1st Cong. Ch., Aux., \$16; "Pearl-Gatherers," \$7.40,                                                                                          | 23 40    |
| <i>Blue Island.</i> — Aux.,                                                                                                                                     | 12 10    |
| <i>Canton.</i> — Aux.,                                                                                                                                          | 24 69    |
| <i>Chicago.</i> — 1st Cong. Ch., Aux., \$87.83; New Eng. Ch., Aux., Mrs. C. G. Hammond, for missionary children under care of Mrs. Walker of Auburndale, \$200. | 287 83   |
| <i>Evanston.</i> — "Towel-Hemmers," for pupil in Miss Porter's school, of wh. 50 cts. is from Addie Parmelee of Erzroom,                                        | 3 18     |
| <i>Fremont.</i> — Aux.,                                                                                                                                         | 3 70     |
| <i>Galesburg.</i> — 1st Ch. of Christ, Aux., \$12.50; a friend, \$2,                                                                                            | 14 50    |
| <i>Geneseo.</i> — Aux.,                                                                                                                                         | 37 50    |
| <i>Geneva.</i> — Aux.,                                                                                                                                          | 6 70     |
| <i>Jacksonville.</i> — Aux., of wh. \$10 is for centennial work, remainder for salary of Miss Evans,                                                            | 60 00    |
| <i>Kewanee.</i> — Young People's Mission-circle, \$25; Aux., for centennial work, \$10,                                                                         | 35 00    |
| <i>Mendon.</i> — Mrs. Jeannette Fowler, for the Japan newspaper, and toward her own L. M.-ship,                                                                 | 10 00    |
| <i>Moline.</i> — Aux., for pupil at Erzroom, and to const. Mrs. C. S. Ellis L. M.,                                                                              | 25 00    |
| <i>Neposet.</i> — Mrs. Robert Prince,                                                                                                                           | 2 00     |
| <i>Payson.</i> — Aux.,                                                                                                                                          | 10 00    |
| <i>Peoria.</i> — Aux., for pupil at Erzroom,                                                                                                                    | 40 00    |
| <i>Peru.</i> — Aux., of wh. \$5 is for Health Retreat near Mardin,                                                                                              | 17 74    |
| <i>Quincy.</i> — Aux.,                                                                                                                                          | 15 00    |
| <i>Rockford.</i> — 2d Ch., Aux., for salary of Miss Diamant, \$102.67; aid to missionary children, \$10,                                                        | 112 67   |
| <i>Waverly.</i> — Aux., for salary of Miss Evans, and to const. Miss Margaret Sleith L. M.,                                                                     | 25 00    |
| <i>Wheaton.</i> — Aux., for salary of Miss Dudley,                                                                                                              | 12 05    |
| Total,                                                                                                                                                          | \$789 06 |

## WISCONSIN.

|                                                                      |        |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| <i>Burlington.</i> — "A few ladies," by Mrs. A. E. Durgin,           | \$4 00 |
| <i>Janesville.</i> — Wright Mission-Band, for salary of Mrs. Curtis, | 15 00  |
| <i>Koshkonong.</i> — Aux., for salary of Miss Taylor,                | 16 28  |

|                                                       |          |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| <i>Racine.</i> — For Manissa school,                  | \$45 18  |
| <i>Watertown.</i> — Aux.,                             | 25 00    |
| <i>Whitewater.</i> — Aux., for salary of Miss Taylor, | 13 72    |
| Total,                                                | \$119 18 |

## IOWA.

|                                                                                                                                                                                     |          |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| <i>Davenport.</i> — Aux., for salary of Miss Day,                                                                                                                                   | \$20 85  |
| <i>Demark.</i> — Aux., for salary of Miss Hillis, and to const. Mrs. Dea. Brooks L. M., \$25; "Helping Hands" for pupil in Samokov school, \$7; for Mrs. Coffing's rag carpet, \$1, | 33 00    |
| <i>Dubuque.</i> — Aux., "Centennial offering,"                                                                                                                                      | 1 00     |
| <i>Fairfield.</i> — Aux.,                                                                                                                                                           | 11 75    |
| <i>Grinnell.</i> — Aux., \$14.37, Cong. Ch. Miss. Soc., \$35.63, for salary of Miss Hillis,                                                                                         | 50 00    |
| <i>McGregor.</i> — Aux., for Health Retreat, \$10, for Bible-reader, \$8.50, with prev. cont. to const. Mrs. C. C. Cragin, L. M.,                                                   | 18 50    |
| <i>Monticello.</i> — Aux., of wh. \$5 is for Japan Home,                                                                                                                            | 17 00    |
| <i>Sibley.</i> — "A mother's thank-offering," \$10; "Sibley Helpers," \$3.70,                                                                                                       | 13 70    |
| Total,                                                                                                                                                                              | \$165 80 |

## MINNESOTA.

|                                                      |         |
|------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| <i>Northfield.</i> — Carlton Coll., Aux.,            | \$17 10 |
| <i>Winona.</i> — Aux., for salary of Miss Van Duzee, | 38 50   |
| Total,                                               | \$55 60 |

## MISSOURI.

|                                        |         |
|----------------------------------------|---------|
| <i>St. Louis.</i> — "Pilgrim Workers," | \$35 00 |
| Total,                                 | \$35 00 |

## KANSAS.

|                                                      |         |
|------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| <i>Lawrence.</i> — Aux., for scholarship at Mamissa, | \$12 00 |
| Total,                                               | \$12 00 |

## DAKOTA.

|                                                                            |         |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| <i>Yankton.</i> — Young People's Mission Soc., for missionaries' children, | \$10 00 |
| Total,                                                                     | \$10 00 |

## CALIFORNIA.

|                               |            |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| Woman's Board of the Pacific, | \$500 00   |
| Total,                        | \$500 00   |
| Total,                        | \$2,087 49 |



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Life and Light for Woman

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